

City of South Gate/OLDA Southern Rail Corridor **Community Impacts and Opportunity Assessment**

City of South Gate

Environmental Justice FY10-11 Grant Cycle District 7 Grant Award Amount: \$213,840



Project Summary:

The city of South Gate, in cooperation with six neighboring local jurisdictions and the Orangeline Development Authority (OLDA), conducted an Environmental Justice planning study that assessed community impacts and addressed environmental justice goals and objectives related to the development of a transit corridor linking the southern portion of the OLDA high-speed rail corridor with Union Station.

Community Outreach

Public outreach was utilized during the Alternatives Analysis study. Type of outreach included: four rounds of community meetings, community events, round tables for business leader, elected official briefings, and stakeholder interviews.

Environmental Justice Community Outreach:

- An Alternatives Analysis study was completed which helped to determine the demographics of the area. This proved the environmental justice portion due to socioeconomic status within the corridor.
- During stakeholder interviews, there was a special focus on low-income, non-English speaking persons, and minority groups.

Project Outcome

The Environmental Justice study has provided OLDA and their city partners with a greater understanding of the collective views and perspective of the stakeholder constituencies, including issues and barriers. This will sufficiently guide future decision-making relative to the development of a transit corridor in the geographic area of the project.

Successes & Next Steps

- Other approved planning projects related to OLDA are already set in motion, while future OLDA projects have been planned, but not granted funding yet. These projects will continue to build connectivity within South Gate as well as surrounding cities.
- The City of South Gate, other City partners, and OLDA plan to continue to strengthen community networks and to recruit local volunteer "ambassadors" to continue to build interest and momentum within Environmental Justice communities to participate in upcoming regional planning efforts associated with the OLDA project.